In the Claims:

Please amend claims 9 – 18 and 27, as indicated below.

1. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method for providing differentiated quality of service in an application server, comprising:

a server system receiving a request, wherein said request includes information indicating at least one of user identity, current user role, or a time constraint; and

in response to receiving the request:

accessing pre-determined policy data;

establishing a quality of service context based on said information included in said request and said policy data; and

propagating said quality of service context with said request in the server system, wherein said propagating comprises sending data indicating the quality of service context with the request.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said information further indicates a requested service.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said quality of service context includes information indicating at least one of service class, priority, or deadline.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said establishing a quality of service context is completed at an ingress point.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 wherein said ingress point is at least one of a web server or a protocol manager service within said server system.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising, propagating the same quality of service context with a subsequent request related to said request.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said propagating includes inserting said quality of service context adjacent to at least one of a security and transaction context.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein a load balancing service dispatches said request including said quality of service context, to an application server in a plurality of application servers, based on said quality of service context.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein a request manager service dispatches said request including said quality of service context, to a software component in a plurality of software components, based on said quality of service context.

10. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium, comprising program instructions executable to implement:

a server system, configured to:

receive a request, wherein said request includes information indicating at least one of user identity, current user role, or time constraint; and

in response to receiving the request:

access pre-determined policy data;

establish a quality of service context based on said information included in said request and said policy data; and

propagate data indicating said quality of service context with said request in the server system.

11. (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein said information further indicates a requested service.

12. (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein said quality of service context includes information indicating at least one of service class, priority, or deadline.

13. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein said establishing a quality of service context is completed at an ingress point.

14. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13 wherein said ingress point is at least one of a web server or a protocol manager service within said server system.

15. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, further comprising program instructions executable to: propagate the same quality of service context with a subsequent request related to said request.

16. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein said propagating includes inserting said quality of service context adjacent to at least one of a security and transaction context.

17. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 10, wherein a load balancing service dispatches said request including said quality of service context, to

an application server in a plurality of application servers, based on said quality of service context.

18.   (Currently amended)   The computer readable <u>storage</u> medium of claim 10, wherein a request manager service dispatches said request including said quality of service context, to a <u>software</u> component in a plurality of <u>software</u> components, based on said quality of service context.

19.   (Previously presented)   A first computer system comprising:

a processor;

a memory storing program instructions;

wherein the processor is operable to execute the program instructions to implement a server system configured to:

receive a request, wherein said request includes information indicating at least one of user identity, current user role, or time constraint; and

in response to receiving the request, the server system is further configured to:

access pre-determined policy data;

establish a quality of service context based on said information included in said request and said policy data; and

propagate data indicating said quality of service context with said request in the server system.

20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said information further indicates a requested service.

21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said quality of service context includes information indicating at least one of service class, priority, or deadline.

22. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said establishing a quality of service context is completed at an ingress point.

23. (Previously presented) The system of claim 22, wherein said ingress point is at least one of a web server or a protocol manager service within said server system.

24. (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, further comprising program instructions to: propagate the same quality of service context with a subsequent request related to said request.

25. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said propagating includes inserting said quality of service context adjacent to at least one of a security and transaction context.

26. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein a load balancing service dispatches said request including said quality of service context, to an application server in a plurality of application servers, based on said quality of service context.

27. (Currently amended) The system of claim 19, wherein a request manager service dispatches said request including said quality of service context, to a software component in a plurality of software components, based on said quality of service context.